

To the Voters of the City of Memphis:

The so-called "Citizens' Ticket" has opened the municipal campaign with a tirade of abuse and mis-statements touching the career of J. J. Williams. Realizing that Mr. Williams is the overwhelming choice of the people for Mayor, Mr. Leslie M. Stratton, campaign manager for the small coterie who seek to perpetuate the rule of their former political czar, threatens the voters of Memphis with a lawsuit if they exercise their privilege of voting for the man under whose former administration Memphis made the first real strides toward progress.

There Is No Longer Any Doubt As to Mr. Williams' Eligibility.

The following opinion, handed down by the Supreme Court of Tennessee, is so plain that the layman cannot misunderstand:

The case in point is reported in 107 Tenn., page 355. The facts were that one H. C. Hascall, of Flint, Mich., came to Lauderdale County, Tennessee, and settled at Gates. He was engaged in getting out timber for the Standard Oil Company. His wife remained in Michigan, and they visited back and forth with one another.

Hascall died. The widow set up the claim to homestead, the exempt property and to a year's support, according to Tennessee laws. Hascall left a will leaving everything to his wife. The will was probated in Lauderdale County. The wife dissented. The administrator resisted the claim of the widow to homestead, the exempt property and the year's support on the ground that Hascall was a resident of Michigan. It is well settled in Tennessee that the year's support for a widow does not apply to a nonresident. The question then arose over Hascall's residence.

After drawing a distinction between "citizen" and "resident," the supreme court, Justice McAlister speaking, said:

"Hascall's business associates testify to repeated declarations by him that his home was in Flint, Mich., and that he was only temporarily in Tennessee to make money. It is also shown that during his illness his wife visited him and expressed her purpose to take him back to Michigan if he recovered. The principal facts relied on to show that Hascall had acquired a domicile in this state are: 1. That he lived here for several years, and 2. that he once voted in a primary election, and 3. that he was once elected alderman of the town of Gates. However, he refused to serve. But we think the declaration of Hascall in respect to his home and his intention to return to it outweigh the fact of voting in a primary or running for office, as indicating the real purpose of the party. It was held in Divine vs. Dennis that facts indicating that a party was a permanent citizen of Tennessee—such as voting in our elections, suing and being sued in our courts, paying taxes, etc.—are overcome by his repeated declarations that he was a citizen of Kentucky and of his purpose to return to Kentucky when his government contract was finished."

The supreme court accordingly held that Hascall was a citizen of Michigan.

Mr. Williams has been a citizen of Memphis for 60 years. Through war and pestilence he has stood by the people of this city. In his public and private life there is not one stain to which any fair-minded man can point. He served two terms of four years each as Mayor, and under his administration there was political peace, life and property were safeguarded, the dread menace of yellow fever was warded off by the splendid sewerage system built, the splendid system of streets and parks was inaugurated, the people were happy and contented, and the city made such forward strides as never before or since.

Since 1905, when Mr. Williams retired, Memphis has been in a political turmoil. Conditions terminated in such an orgy of riot and bloodshed, political corruption and civic chaos as have never existed in an American metropolis in modern times.

Now come the very men who worshiped at the shrine of a political dictator, and in order to catch the votes of the newly enfranchised women hold out glittering promises of reform, which they made no attempt to secure when they blindly and persistently followed a political czar, despite the fact that they knew tribute was levied on dives and bawdy houses, which were permitted to run in open defiance of the law. Memphis is now reaping the harvest sown since J. J. Williams vacated the Mayor's chair. The so-called "Citizens' Ticket" was nominated and is backed by perhaps a score of men, composed largely of the same crowd that a few months ago delegated to themselves the power to change the charter of Memphis, ignored the protests of 15,000 voters, and as a last resort to foist the iniquitous measure on the people of this city fell in behind their recognized political leader and became party to a scheme for its passage by the Legislature so questionable that Martin J. Condon, who advocated the City Manager Charter, openly denounced the tactics employed in the state capitol at Nashville.

Behind the so-called "Citizens' Ticket" is the same power that conducted the City Manager Campaign, and the placing of this ticket in the field is but a shrewd attempt to again fasten on Memphis the tentacles of an administration that taught disrespect of law, burdened the city with a bonded indebtedness that frightens away capital, and caused the law-and-order loving people to go into the courts for relief.

They hold out to you the hand of Esau, but the voice is the voice of Jacob.

They point to the audit of the city's books under Mr. Williams's former administration and insinuate that he is dishonest. The court records will show that after six months' work an auditing firm completely exonerated Mr. Williams. In fact, the result was so much in the Mayor's favor that one of the counsel for the opposition publicly declared: "I have never supported Joe Williams, but I am for him from now on." The attorney made good his statement by taking the stump for Mr. Williams when he offered for re-election.

What J. J. Williams has done for Memphis will later be clearly set forth in the columns of the press. In the meantime, remember that Joe Williams is eligible for the office, as shown by a decision of the Supreme Court and in an opinion by a Memphis attorney, regarded as authority on constitutional law. This opinion will be made public in due time.



Our boys died fighting for liberty on foreign soil—will you meekly submit to the yoke of tyranny at home?

**No! Then Vote For
J. J. Williams For Mayor of Memphis
and His Entire Ticket**